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an important crop. Government would consider next year if the financial position improves whether they could take up this question."

MR. SPEAKER :—" In ten minutes, we will have to finish the rest of the questions. I shall pass on to the next question."

Appointment of Probation Officers.

* 404 *Q.*—SRI D. DASARATHAN (on behalf of Sri A. Ratnam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many posts of Probation Officers have been created by the State Government to check and supervise ex-prisoners;

(*b*) how many Probation Officers have been actually appointed and for what periods;

(*c*) how many posts are reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(*d*) the functions of Probation Officers?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" (*a*) Fifty-seven posts of Probation Officers were sanctioned by the Government prior to the bifurcation of the State, out of which forty-three posts have been retained in the Madras State.

" (*b*) Forty-three Probation Officers have been appointed. Of them, seventeen have been in continuous service for five years and more, twenty for a period over a year and less than five years and the rest, for periods less than a year, on 1st March 1954.

" (*c*) Five posts of Probation Officers were filled up from among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes up to 27th September 1951 and thereafter, three Probation Officers have been appointed from among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the general rules relating to reservation of appointments.

" (*d*) The normal functions of the Probation Officers have been printed and placed [a] on the table of the House."

10-50 a.m. SRI D. DASARATHAN :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister for Law, how many candidates from the Scheduled Caste community have applied for these posts up to this date and how many of them have been selected?"

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" A separate question may be put."

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY :—" There are more than 30 Officers who had served as Sub-Magistrates and Tahsildars in the South Arcot district and have been reverted for want of vacancies. Taking into account the fact that they have acted as Sub-Magistrates and their experience, will the Government consider the desirability of appointing those persons as Probation Officers?"

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 1212 infra.

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THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" These posts require a special kind of training. The suggestion of the hon. Member can be considered when we recruit afresh. Now there is no recruitment."

Minor Irrigation Schemes under Five-Year Plan.

* 405 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Minor Irrigation Schemes that have been taken up for execution under (i) the Five-Year Plan and (ii) under the revised Second Five-Year Plan in the State ; and

(b) the number of minor irrigation works that have yet to be taken up for execution under the above plans?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) Evidently, the hon. Member refers to the First Five-Year Plan which has been revised in so far as it relates to the *present* Madras State. The number of works taken up during the years 1951–52, 1952–53 and 1953–54 in the areas comprised in the present Madras State is as follows :—

(This is in addition to the ordinary work of maintenance undertaken by Collectors at an average cost of about Rs. 30 lakhs a year.)

Agency.	1951–52.	1952–53.	1953–54.	
			Pro-grammed.	*Taken up to end of January 1954.*
Superintending Engineer (Food Production).	506	133	572	349
Chief Engineer (Irrigation) ..	246	..	..	115
Total ..	742	133	572	464

No new schemes were undertaken by the State Government during 1952–53, consequent on the decision of the Government of India, not to sanction subsidy for new works. But some schemes were taken up by the Superintending Engineer (Food Production) before this decision was given effect to.

" (b) The Special Chief Engineer (Irrigation) has programmed to take up 108 new schemes in 1954–55, besides continuing about 100 schemes in progress. The programme of works to be taken up by the Superintending Engineer (Food Production) in 1954–55 is under preparation. The programme for 1955–56 will be settled in due course. The actual execution will depend upon a number of factors such as investigation (both preliminary and detailed) on the technical and revenue side, preparation of plans and estimates, according of sanction to each estimate taking into account the food-yielding capacity, etc., of the schemes. The total provision made in the Five-Year Plan of the present Madras State for Tank